

North Dakota Stockmen's Association
Testimony to the
Senate Industry, Business & Labor Committee on HB 1087
March 3, 2021

Good afternoon, Chairman Klein and members of the Senate Industry, Business and Labor Committee. For the record, my name is Julie Ellingson and I represent the North Dakota Stockmen's Association, a 91-year-old beef cattle trade organization representing approximately 3,000 North Dakota cattle-ranching families across the state.

The Stockmen's Association wants to add its support for HB 1087, which renews the invisible reinsurance program for the individual health market established during the last session. The program has already proven effective in reducing health insurance premiums on the individual market by 20 percent, a meaningful savings for many of our members.

The program is designed to stabilize the individual market by reducing rates and keeping citizens – especially those on the brink of not being able to afford health insurance – insured. Farmers, ranchers and small business owners especially benefit from the reinsurance program since they often carry individual and family insurance policies.

HB 1087 aids North Dakota citizens in keeping insurance costs down. We ask for your favorable consideration of it.